



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO.  | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/750,070   | 12/31/2003  | George C. Schedevy   | 8002A-90            | 9089             |
| 22150  | 7590        | 03/06/2006           | EXAMINER            |                  |
| F. CHAU & ASSOCIATES, LLC<br>130 WOODBURY ROAD<br>WOODBURY, NY 11797 |             |                      | DESIR, PIERRE LOUIS |                  |
|  |             |                      | ART UNIT            | PAPER NUMBER     |
|  |             |                      | 2681                |                  |

DATE MAILED: 03/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



**DETAILED ACTION**

***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-32 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-12, 14-27, 29-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Everett et al. (Everett) Pub. No. US 20050123147, in view of Marlow, Pub. No. US 20040151327.

Regarding claims 1, Everett discloses a connecting device (see fig. 1) comprising: a first power plug for connecting to a power output port of a vehicle (i.e., power block portion 1) (see fig. 1, and page 1, paragraph 11); a second power plug for connecting to a power input port on an electronic device (i.e., docking plug 6) (see fig. 1, and page 1, paragraph 6); at least one signal plug for connecting to at least one signal output port of the electronic device (i.e., docking plug 6 connects to an electronic device) (see fig. 1, and page 1, paragraph 11), wherein audio signals are received by the connecting device through the at least one signal plug (i.e., docking plug 6 connects to an electronic device and allows unattenuated audio signals to pass) (see fig. 1, page 1, paragraph 11, and page 3, claim 11); and a wireless transmitter for wirelessly transmitting the

Art Unit: 2681

audio signals to a receiver in the vehicle (i.e., transmitter) (see fig. 1, and page 1, paragraph 11, and page 3, claim 11). Everett also discloses a connecting device wherein the receiver (as related to claim 33) is a digital radio coupled to the vehicle (i.e., FM radio) (see abstract).

Although Everett discloses a device for connecting a personal audio player to a vehicle equipped with a FM radio, Everett's provisional application No. 6052720221 does not specifically disclose a device comprising a wireless transmitter for wirelessly transmitting visual signals that are received by a connecting device.

However, Marlow discloses a device wherein the audio channels of an MP3 player are connected (channeled) to the car stereo system, allowing audio from the MP3 player to be played through the car stereo. Data is retrieved from the MP3 player, including track, time, title, and song information, formatted, and transmitted to the car stereo for display by the car stereo using a transmitter (see paragraphs 77 and 107).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the references as described above to arrive at a device wherein the wireless transmitter, as described, could transmit both audio and visual signals (as related to track, time, title, and song information) to be played and displayed. A motivation for doing so would have been to provide a system wherein information produced by an audio player can be quickly and conveniently viewed by a driver by merely viewing the display of the car stereo (see paragraph 77).

Regarding claim 2, Everett discloses a connecting device (see claim 1 rejection) wherein power from the vehicle is supplied to the power input port of the electronic device via the first

power plug and the second power plug (i.e., filtered DC current pass from the vehicle to any device connected to docking plug 6) (see fig. 1, page 1, and paragraph 11).

Regarding claims 3 and 18, Everett discloses a connecting device (see claims 1 and 17 rejections) wherein the electronic device is an MP3 Player (see page 1, paragraph 11).

Regarding claims 4 and 19, Everett discloses a connecting device (see claims 1 and 17 rejections) wherein the audio signals are stored on at least one of a digital video disc, a video compact disc, a compact disc, or a computer file (i.e., personal audio player) (see page 2, paragraph 16). Also, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to unhesitatingly conceptualize that data such as track, title and song information may be stored on the personal audio player (also refer to Marlow paragraph 77).

Regarding claims 5 and 20, Everett discloses a connecting device as described above (see claims 1 and 17 rejections).

Although Everett and Marlow disclose a connecting device as described, Everett does not specifically disclose a connecting device wherein the visual signals are synchronized with at least one of the audio signals and visual signals.

However, Marlow discloses a device wherein the visual signals are synchronized with the audio signals (see paragraph 77).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the references as described above to arrive at a device wherein the wireless transmitter, as described, could transmit both audio and visual signals (as related to track, time, title, and song information) to be played and displayed. A motivation for doing so would have been to provide a system wherein information produced by an audio player can be quickly and

Art Unit: 2681

conveniently viewed by a driver by merely viewing the display of the car stereo (see paragraph 77).

Regarding claims 6 and 21, Everett discloses a connecting device (see claims 1 and 17 rejections) further comprising a frequency selector (or a means) for selecting a frequency on which the audio signals are wirelessly transmitted (i.e., frequency selection block 16) (see page 2, paragraph 14).

Although Everett discloses a device as described, Everett does not specifically disclose a device wherein visual signal are wireless transmitted.

However, Marlow discloses a device comprising transmission of visual signals (see paragraph 77).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the references as described above to arrive at a device wherein the wireless transmitter, as described, could transmit both audio and visual signals (as related to track, time, title, and song information) to be played and displayed. A motivation for doing so would have been to provide a system wherein information produced by an audio player can be quickly and conveniently viewed by a driver by merely viewing the display of the car stereo (see paragraph 77).

Regarding claims 7 and 22, Everett discloses a connecting device (see claims 1 and 17 rejections) wherein the selected frequency ranges from about 88 MHz to about 108 MHz (see page 2, paragraph 14).

Regarding claims 8 and 23, Everett discloses a connecting device (see claims 1 and 17 rejections) wherein the selected frequency ranges from about 88MHz to about 225MHz (see page 2, paragraph 14).

Regarding claims 9 and 24, Everett discloses a connecting device (see claims 1 and 17 rejections) wherein the selected frequency ranges from about 88 MHz to about 225 MHz (i.e., the receive port transmits a signal to a FM Transmitter 3 which uses the audio signal to modulate the frequency of the transmitter to a frequency on the FM broadcast band) (see page 1, paragraph 12 and page 2, paragraph 14).

Regarding claims 10 and 25, Everett discloses a connecting device (see claims 1 and 17 rejections) wherein the receiver is an FM radio coupled to an antenna of the vehicle (i.e., vehicle equipped with FM radio which is inherently coupled to an antenna) (see abstract, and page 2, paragraph 15).

Regarding claims 11 and 26, Everett discloses a connecting device (see claims 1 and 17 rejections) wherein the receiver is a display unit coupled (or installed) to an antenna of the vehicle (i.e., Everett discloses a vehicle equipped with FM radio, which is inherently coupled to an antenna of the vehicle, and LED 51-58, which display the frequency channel chosen by the user) (see abstract, and page 2, paragraphs 14-15).

Although Everett discloses a device as described, one might argue that Everett does not specifically disclose a device wherein the receiver is a display unit.

However, Marlow discloses a device wherein the receiver is a display unit (see paragraph 77).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the references as described above to arrive at the claimed invention. A motivation for doing so would have been to provide a system wherein information produced by an audio player can be quickly and conveniently viewed by a driver by merely viewing the display of the car stereo (see paragraph 77).

Regarding claims 12 and 27, Everett discloses a connecting device (see claims 1 and 17 rejections) wherein the receiver includes a display for displaying visual information (i.e., LED 51-58 indicate which frequency channel is chosen by a user) (see page 2, paragraph 14).

Although Everett discloses a device as described above, one might argue that Everett does not specifically disclose a device wherein the receiver includes a display for displaying visual information derived from the visual signals transmitted by the wireless transmitter.

However, Marlow discloses a device wherein the receiver includes a display for displaying visual information (see paragraph 77).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the references as described above to arrive at the claimed invention. A motivation for doing so would have been to provide a system wherein information produced by an audio player can be quickly and conveniently viewed by a driver by merely viewing the display of the car stereo (see paragraph 77).

Regarding claims 14 and 29, Everett discloses a connecting device (see claims 1 and 17 rejections) further comprising a modulator for modulating the audio signals onto a predetermined frequency for wireless transmission at the predetermined frequency (i.e., the receive port transmits a signal to a FM Transmitter 3 which uses the audio signal to modulate the frequency

Art Unit: 2681

of the transmitter to a frequency on the FM broadcast band) (see page 1, and paragraph 12; page 2, and paragraph 13, and page 3, claim 11).

Although Everett discloses a connecting device as described, Everett does not specifically disclose a device wherein visual signals are modulated.

However, Marlow discloses a device wherein track, time, title, and song information are formatted and transmitted to the car stereo for display by the car stereo using a transmitter (see paragraphs 77 and 107).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the references as described above to arrive at the claimed invention. A motivation for doing so would have been to provide a system wherein information produced by an audio player can be quickly and conveniently viewed by a driver by merely viewing the display of the car stereo (see paragraph 77).

Regarding claims 15 and 30, Everett discloses a connecting device (see claims 1 and 17 rejections) wherein the wireless transmitter includes at least one of an FM transmitter and a digital broadcast transmitter (i.e., FM transmitter) (see figs. 1-2, and page 1, paragraphs 11-12).

Regarding claims 16 and 31, Everett discloses a connecting device as described above (see claims 1 and 17 rejections).

Although Everett discloses a device as described, Everett does not specifically disclose a device wherein the visual signals include at least one of text, graphics and video.

However, Marlow discloses a device wherein the visual signals include track, time, title, and song information (see paragraph 77).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the references as described above to arrive at the claimed invention. A motivation for doing so would have been to provide a system wherein information produced by an audio player can be quickly and conveniently viewed by a driver by merely viewing the display of the car stereo (see paragraph 77).

Regarding claim 17, Everett discloses a connecting device comprising: a means for connecting to a power supply of a vehicle (i.e., power block portion 1) (see fig. 1, and page 1, paragraph 11); a first means for connecting to an electronic device, whereby power is supplied from the power supply to the electronic device (i.e., docking plug 6) (see fig. 1, and page 1, paragraph 6); a second means for connecting to the electronic device (i.e., docking plug 6 connects to an electronic device) (see fig. 1, and page 1, paragraph 11), whereby audio signals from the electronic device are received by the connecting device plug (i.e., docking plug 6 connects to an electronic device and allows unattenuated audio to pass) (see fig. 1, page 1, paragraph 11, and page 3, claim 11); and a transmission means for wirelessly transmitting the audio signals to a receiver in the vehicle (i.e., transmitter) (see fig. 1, and page 1, paragraph 11, and page 3, claim 11).

Although Everett discloses a method as described above, Everett's provisional application No. 6052720221 does not specifically a method wherein wirelessly transmitted visual signals are received a connecting device.

However, Marlow discloses a method wherein the audio channels of an MP3 player are connected (channeled) to the car stereo system, allowing audio from the MP3 player to be played through the car stereo. Data is retrieved from the MP3 player, including track, time, title, and

Art Unit: 2681

song information, formatted, and transmitted to the car stereo for display by the car stereo using a transmitter (see paragraphs 11, 77, and 107).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the references as described above to arrive at a device wherein the wireless transmitter, as described, could transmit both audio and visual signals (as related to track, time, title, and song information) to be played and displayed. A motivation for doing so would have been to provide a system wherein information produced by an audio player can be quickly and conveniently viewed by a driver by merely viewing the display of the car stereo (see paragraph 77).

Regarding claim 32, Everett discloses a wireless transmitter for use in a vehicle (see fig. 1 and abstract), comprising: a connector for connecting to an output port of an electronic device (see fig. 1, and page 1, paragraph 11), wherein the wireless transmitter receives audio signals through the connector vehicle (i.e., transmitter) (see fig. 1, and page 1, paragraph 11, and page 3, claim 11); and a digital broadcast transmitter for wirelessly transmitting the audio signals to a receiver in the vehicle (i.e., FM transmitter) (see figs. 1-2, and page 1, paragraphs 11-12).

Although Everett discloses a wireless transmitter as described, Everett does not specifically disclose a transmitter for wirelessly transmitting visual signals nor does he disclose a digital broadcast transmitter. It is worth noted that Applicant does not specify what type of benefits that using a digital broadcast transmitter instead of a FM transmitter would accomplish. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to unhesitatingly conceptualize that the transmitter could be a FM transmitter or a digital broadcast transmitter.

However, Marlow discloses a transmitter wherein the audio channels of an MP3 player are connected (channeled) to the car stereo system, allowing audio from the MP3 player to be played through the car stereo. Data is retrieved from the MP3 player, including track, time, title, and song information, formatted, and transmitted to the car stereo for display by the car stereo using a transmitter (see paragraphs 11, 77, and 107).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the references as described above to arrive at a device wherein the wireless transmitter, which may be a FM transmitter or a digital broadcast transmitter, could transmit both audio and visual signals (as related to track, time, title, and song information) to be played and displayed. A motivation for doing so would have been to provide a system wherein information produced by an audio player can be quickly and conveniently viewed by a driver by merely viewing the display of the car stereo (see paragraph 77).

Regarding claim 34, Everett discloses a device wherein the wireless transmitter is a FM transmitter.

Although Everett discloses a device as described, Everett does not specifically disclose a digital broadcast transmitter. It is worth noted that Applicant does not specify what type of benefits that using a digital broadcast transmitter instead of a FM transmitter would accomplish. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to unhesitatingly conceptualize that the transmitter could be a FM transmitter or a digital broadcast transmitter.

However, Marlow discloses a transmitter wherein the audio channels of an MP3 player are connected (channeled) to the car stereo system, allowing audio from the MP3 player to be played through the car stereo. Data is retrieved from the MP3 player, including track, time, title,

Art Unit: 2681

and song information, formatted, and transmitted to the car stereo for display by the car stereo using a transmitter (see paragraphs 11, 77, and 107).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the references as described above to arrive at a device wherein the wireless transmitter, which may be a FM transmitter or a digital broadcast transmitter, could transmit both audio and visual signals (as related to track, time, title, and song information) to be played and displayed. A motivation for doing so would have been to provide a system wherein information produced by an audio player can be quickly and conveniently viewed by a driver by merely viewing the display of the car stereo (see paragraph 77).

4. Claims 13 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Everett and Marlow in further view of Brice et al. (Brice) Pub. No. US 20040234081.

Regarding claim 13 and 28, Everett and Marlow disclose a connecting device as described above (see claims 1 and 17 rejections).

Although Everett and Marlow disclose a connecting device as described, the combination does not specifically disclose a connecting device further comprising a multiplexer for multiplexing the audio signals and the visual signals.

However, Brice discloses a multiplexer for multiplexing signals (see page 5, paragraph 41).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings as described by Brice with the teachings of Everett to arrive

Art Unit: 2681


at the claimed invention. A motivation for doing so would have been to ensure the proper transmission of the signals.

***Conclusion***

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pierre-Louis Desir whose telephone number is (571) 272-779. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00AM- 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Feild can be reached on (571) 272-4090. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Pierre-Louis Desir  
AU 2681  
02/26/2006

  
JOSEPH FEILD  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER